

A WARM WELCOME TO ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

8:30 AND 11:00 A.M.

DECEMBER 4, 2022

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

“PREPARE THE ROYAL HIGHWAY”

Krentz Organ JEAN PONTIOUS

INTRODUCTION

At the heart of our Advent preparation stands John the Baptist, who calls us to repent and make a new beginning. As the darkness increases we turn toward the approaching light of Christ. For Christians he is the root of Jesse, the righteous judge who welcomes all, especially the poor and meek of the earth. We wait with hope for that day when the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and there will be no more hurt or destruction. From the Lord's table we are sent in the spirit of John the Baptist to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of God has come near.

Stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the Lord †, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

C **Blessed be God's name forever. Amen.**

P Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep. Let us confront our sins, and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P God of new beginnings,

C **we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign. We have strayed from your paths. We prepare for war instead of peace. We dishonor one another and your creation. Purify us with your refining fire and set us again on your way of love, that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance, and welcome your coming among us. Amen.**

P People of God, a new thing is growing in our midst, a tender branch, a living sign. By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder. You have put on † Christ, and your sins have been washed away. Rejoice in the way of the Lord.

C **Amen.**

1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.

Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.

Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

Refrain
Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

(People lighting candles come forward)

8:30 A.M. – BROOKE AND TREVOR DOWNING

11:00 A.M. – PAM AND MIKE LAYNE

Abraham Lincoln once stated simply and factually, "No man ever got lost on a straight road."

There are some of us whose path in life has endured some sharp twists and turns that have caused us to feel like we have lost our way and the path forward is unclear. So we find ourselves here, today, hearing John the Baptizer exclaim the words from Isaiah 40, "Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight."

Jesus, God made flesh, came straight to us so that we would be together, with him, as soon as possible. And while sin has caused some winding roads, God has made a straight line for us to be together, forever: a straight path to heaven: through Jesus the truth, the life, and the way.

"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah"

Vs. 2



2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray together the prayer of the day.

C **Lord God, thank you for not only showing us the way forward, but by being the way forward. Thank you for walking with us, leading us, carrying us, and caring for us. Christ, be our light as we journey forward with you, to you. Amen.**

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 11:1-10

Isaiah describes the coming of a future, ideal ruler who will renew David's royal line (the stump of Jesse). Gifted by the spirit of God, this ruler will reign with perfect justice. Enmity and danger will be restored to harmony and peaceful coexistence.

¹A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. ²The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. ⁶The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. ⁹They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

After the reading:

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 72

READ RESPONSIVELY

May the righteous flourish; let there be an abundance of peace. (Ps. 72:7)

- A ¹Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the king's son;
- C ²**that he may rule your people righteously
and the poor with justice;**
- A ³that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.
- C ⁴**Let him defend the needy among the people,
rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.**
- A ⁵May he live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another.
- C ⁶**Let him come down like rain upon the mown field,
like showers that water the earth.**
- A ⁷In his time may the righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- C ¹⁸**Blessed are you, LORD God, the God of Israel;
you alone do wondrous deeds!**
- A ¹⁹And blessed be your glorious name forever,
and may all the earth be filled with your glory. Amen. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND READING: Romans 15:4-13

God's promise to include Gentiles within the circle of God's blessed people has been fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Christians live out their unity by welcoming and encouraging each other just as Christ has welcomed them into God's family.

⁴Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; ¹⁰and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; ¹¹and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; ¹²and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope." ¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

After the reading:

- A The Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 3rd chapter.
C **Glory to you O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12

Just before Jesus begins his public ministry, John the Baptist appears, calling people to mend their ways and speaking of a powerful one who is to come.

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" ⁴Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁷But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

After the reading:

P The Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sit

SERMON

"STRAIGHT HOME"

PASTOR AARON LAYNE

SPECIAL MUSIC

*"COLD DECEMBER FLIES AWAY"
"PREPARE A WAY FOR THE LORD"*

RAEBE
BEDFORD

**JEAN PONTIOUS
ADVENT ANGELS**

OFFERING OPPORTUNITY

AdventELC relies on donations from members and friends in order to carry out our worship, ministry, and outreach.

Please consider a one time, weekly, or monthly gift that will help us to provide essential ministries to this family of faith and to our neighbors.

www.adventelc.org/donate



Stand

APOSTLES' CREED

C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.
A brief silence.

A God, you renew the church in every age. We give thanks for hymn writers and theologians (especially John of Damascus, whom we commemorate today). Inspire teachers, writers, and musicians to delight and instruct your people. God, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A You give us a vision of creation in harmony, when hurting and destruction will be no more. Teach us to be stewards of the earth and companions to its creatures. Restore to balance and wholeness what human greed has harmed. God, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A You defend the cause of all who are poor and oppressed. Raise up leaders who will govern with equity and serve the common good. Guide judges, lawmakers, and public officials to protect the rights of those who cannot advocate for themselves. God, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A You deliver those in need from suffering and fear. Come to the aid of any who are exploited or abused, especially children, elders, and victims of human trafficking. Provide safety and help to our neighbors without shelter, refugees, and those fleeing violence. God, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A You urge your people to welcome one another as you have welcomed us. Nurture ministries of hospitality and care in this and every congregation (*local examples may be named*). We pray for people who are homebound, hospitalized, or separated from loved ones (*especially*). God, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A You embrace all who have died trusting in your promises, and we give thanks for their faithful witness. Sustain us in hope until we are united with them in the joy of your eternal presence. God, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.

C Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



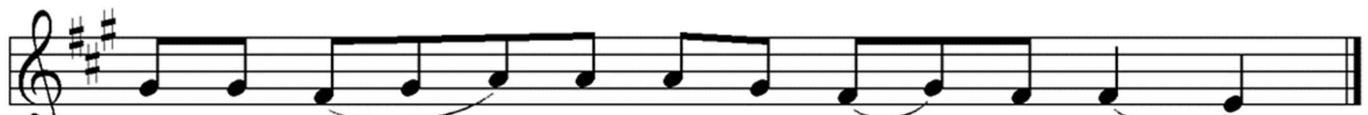
P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

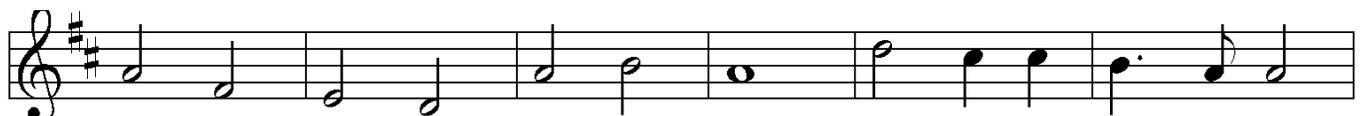


P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:



Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

A Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:
C **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen**



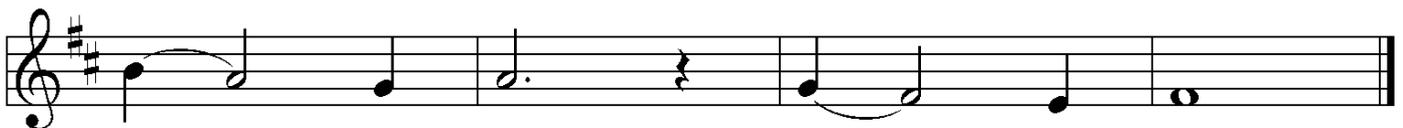
☩ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

P And now may the body of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and His most holy and precious blood, strengthen you and preserve you and keep you to true faith unto life everlasting. May we depart in peace and may the Lord be with you.

C Amen

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A Let us pray. Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

WE ARE SENT OUT TO SERVE

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

C Amen

SENDING HYMN

“HARK THE GLAD SOUND”

VSS. 1, 2 & 4

LBW # 35

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
 2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come

prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
 bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
 shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal

pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
 fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
 arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Worship God, Follow Jesus, Serve Others and Make Disciples.
C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

	8:30 A.M.	11:00 A.M.
ASSISTING MINISTER	BRENT WELCH	TOM HEIBY
PASTOR	THE REV. AARON LAYNE	

The 2023 flower chart is posted above the usher stand in the Narthex. Please sign up for Altar Flowers or call the church office at 614-451-3639 to reserve flowers for that special occasion. **Open dates for flowers in 2022 are December 11, January 8, 15, 22 and 29**



Today's Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Florence Parker, mother of Jennifer Parker; and in celebration of Trevor Downing's birthday from Brooke.

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Sunday, December 4
Live Nativity 5:00 p.m.



Wednesday, December 7
Kid's Christmas with the Staff

6:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 11
Advent Tea in the Fellowship Hall 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday December 14
BEARS Musical Program 5:30 p.m.



Saturday, December 17
Blue Christmas Service *A time for hope and healing* 7:00 p.m.



Sunday, December 18
Youth Christmas Party 5:30 p.m.

Monday, December 19
Mitten Tree Deadline
(Hats, mittens and scarves for middle school kids)



Thursday, December 22
Advent Youth Salvation Army

6:00 p.m.



Saturday, December 24
4:30 p.m. **Christmas Eve Family Service**
7:00 p.m. **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

Sunday, December 25

One Service – 10:30 a.m. No Sunday School or Adult Learning



December 23, 24, 25, 26 & 31 and January 1, 2 – Church Office Closed

Sunday, January 1

One Service – 10:30 a.m. No Sunday School or Adult Learning